

§§ 1214.1000–1214.1004 [Reserved]

**Subpart 1214.11—NASA Astronaut  
Candidate Recruitment and  
Selection Program**

SOURCE: 54 FR 37940, Sept. 14, 1989, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 1214.1100 Scope.**

It is NASA policy to maintain an integrated Astronaut Corps. This subpart 1214.11 sets forth NASA procedures and assigns responsibilities for recruitment and selection of astronaut candidates. It applies to all pilot and mission specialist astronaut candidate selection activities conducted by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

**§ 1214.1101 Announcement.**

(a) Astronaut candidate opportunities will be announced nationwide by the Johnson Space Center (JSC) and publicized periodically unless specifically canceled by NASA.

(b) Civilian applicants may apply at any time.

(c) JSC is responsible for implementing and refining the astronaut candidate application process to minimize the effort required to file and/or update applications.

(d) Military personnel on active duty must apply through and be nominated by the military service with which they are affiliated. Military nominees will not be part of the continuing pool of applicants. The military services will convene their internal selection boards and provide nominees to NASA. The military nominees will be evaluated by NASA and the military services will be notified promptly of those nominees who are finalists.

(e) The Assistant Administrator for Equal Opportunity Programs, NASA Headquarters, will provide assistance in the recruiting process.

**§ 1214.1102 Evaluation of applications.**

(a) All incoming applications will be reviewed by the JSC Human Resources Office to determine whether or not applicants meet basic qualifications. Those not meeting the basic qualification requirements will be so notified in writing and will not be eligible for fur-

ther consideration. Those meeting the basic qualification requirements will have their applications retained for review by a designated rating panel.

(b) The JSC Director, or designee, will appoint the rating panel composed of discipline experts who will review and rate qualified applicants as “Qualified” or “Highly Qualified.”

(c) Efforts will be made to assure that minorities and females are included among these discipline experts.

(d) The criteria for each level will be developed by JSC and will serve as the basis for the ratings. The evaluation will be based on the quality of the individual’s academic background and experience and the extent to which the individual’s academic achievements, experience, and special qualifications relate to the astronaut candidate position. Reference information on those rated “Highly Qualified” will normally be obtained. The JSC Director of Human Resources will monitor this process to assure adherence to applicable rules and regulations.

(e) Those rated “Highly Qualified” may be required to obtain a Class I or Class II physical. Only medically qualified applicants will be referred for final evaluation and possible interview and selection. Those who are not medically qualified will be so informed and will not be eligible for further consideration.

**§ 1214.1103 Application cutoff date.**

(a) The JSC Director, or designee, is responsible for identifying the need for additional astronaut candidates and for obtaining necessary approval to make selections.

(b) Once such approval has been obtained, the JSC Director will establish a cutoff date for the acceptance of applications. Applications received after the date of the request will be maintained and processed for the next selection. The cutoff date will normally occur every 2 years on or about July 1.

**§ 1214.1104 Evaluation and ranking of highly qualified candidates.**

(a) The JSC Director will appoint a selection board consisting of discipline experts and such other persons as appropriate to further evaluate and rank the “Highly Qualified” applicants.